

US App. No. 10/686,970
Response to 7/11/08 final Office Action

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's statement that the previous Office Action Summary erroneously indicated that a certified copy of the German patent application no. 10248555.0 priority document had been received. Applicants will submit a certified copy of that priority document in a separate correspondence in due course.

Applicants also acknowledge the Examiner's determination that claims 19, 21-31 and 38 are allowed. Applicants have canceled the remaining rejected claims (claims 32-37) to place the application in condition for allowance, and applications request entry of these amendments.

Claims 32 and 33 stand rejected as being anticipated by Moorman (US Patent No. 5,356,782). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. However, to advance the prosecution of this matter, and without prejudicing applications right to pursue the subject matter in a subsequent application, claims 32 and 33 have been canceled rendering the rejection moot.

Claims 32, 33 and 35 stand rejected as being anticipated by Fleming et al (US Patent No. 6,365,417). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. However, to advance the prosecution of this matter, and without prejudicing applications right to pursue the subject matter in a subsequent application, claims 32, 33 and 35 have been canceled rendering the rejection moot.

Claim 34 stands rejected as being unpatentable over the teachings of Moorman (US 5,356,782) in view of Carr et al. Applicants respectfully traverse that rejection. However, to advance the prosecution of this matter, and without prejudicing applications right to pursue the subject matter in a subsequent application, claim 34 has been canceled rendering the rejection moot.

Claim 35 stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Moorman in view of Caspers et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. However, to advance the prosecution of this matter, and without prejudicing applications right to pursue the subject matter in a subsequent application, claim 35 has been canceled rendering the rejection moot.

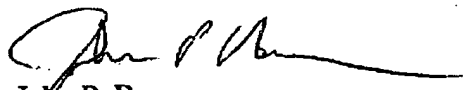
Claim 36 stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Moorman in view of Mach et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. However, to advance the prosecution of this matter, and without prejudicing applications right to pursue the subject matter in a subsequent application, claim 36 has been canceled rendering the rejection moot.

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Claim 37 stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Moorman in view of Mach et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. However, to advance the prosecution of this matter, and without prejudicing applications right to pursue the subject matter in a subsequent application, claim 37 has been canceled rendering the rejection moot.

Applicants believe the claimed invention as amended herein is in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request allowance of the claims, and passage of the application to issuance. If any further discussion of this matter would speed prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (434) 220-2866.

Respectfully presented,



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